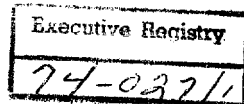


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16 January 1974

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR

THROUGH: DDI

SUBJECT : The Soft Answer That Turneth Away Wrath

1. On 26 December, Admiral de Poix wrote you a potentially prickly letter about certain problems that bothered DIA in connection with NIE 11-8. With Vince's concurrence, I have deferred preparing an answer for you until we were able to see whether these problems could be resolved. Fortunately, in large measure they have been. The basic spadework on this resolution was achieved in the session Stoertz, [] and I had with [] a session whose results I relayed to Jim Schlesinger and which he endorsed -- as Vince also knows.

2. To keep the record straight and to close the bureaucratic circuit, attached is a rather bland reply to de Poix which Stoertz drafted and which, by design, says very little in writing.

[]
George A. Carver, Jr.

Deputy for National Intelligence Officers

Attachment

Letter to Admiral de Poix from Mr. Colby

O/D/DCI/NIO:GACarver/mee

Distribution

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1 - DDCI

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28 January 1974

Vice Admiral Vincent P. de Poix, USN
Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Department of Defense
Washington, D.C. 20301


Dear Vince:

Thank you for your letter of 26 December expressing your views about the illustrative force projections in draft NIE 11-8-73. It afforded the opportunity to seek some solution to the problem before USIB consideration of the NIE, and it highlighted an issue which will need to be addressed during the next few months.

On 9 January George Carver met with [] Howard Stoertz and others on the problem of the illustrative force projections. At that meeting it was agreed that DIA would propose additional changes in the force projections to improve the consistency between them and the DIPP, and that an attempt would be made to adjust the explanatory footnote to the projections to make it acceptable to both DIA and CIA. Mr. Carver also agreed with [] proposals to clarify certain statements in section VIII of the Annex and to double-check certain information.

I hope that these actions now underway will resolve the immediate problems related to the draft NIE 11-8-73. The fundamental issue raised in your letter will require a joint effort of our agencies and the NIO for Strategic Programs to survey our consumers in the NSC staff and the DoD and to devise satisfactory arrangements to meet their current requirements for force projections.

Sincerely,


W. E. Colby
Director

O/DCI/NIO/SP:HStoertz/mat 16 Jan 74.

Distribution:

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